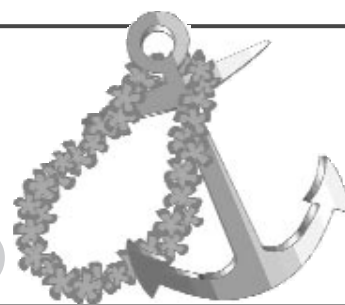


# Hawaii Navy News



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## IN BRIEF

### Ford Island Bridge closure

The Admiral Bernard "Chick" Clarey Bridge, connecting Ford Island to Pearl Harbor, will be closed to vehicular traffic Dec. 7 from 7:15 until 8:30 a.m. to allow a ship pass-in-review as part of the annual Dec. 7th observance. There will be a trial closure conducted Dec. 5 from 7 until 8 a.m. For more information call the Naval Station quarterdeck at 473-6249.

Dec. 7, 1999:

Local events commemorating the 58th anniversary of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor

- The National Park Service will hold a ceremony at 7:45 a.m. at the Arizona Memorial Visitor Center. Scheduled speaker is Kermit Tyler, a Pearl Harbor survivor.

- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Holiday Coalition's ceremony will be at 9 a.m. Scheduled speakers include the Honorable Minerva Jean A. Falcon, Dean of Consular Corps of Hawaii, U.S. Representative Patsy Mink and Vice Adm. Robert Kihune, (ret.), President, USS Missouri Memorial Association.

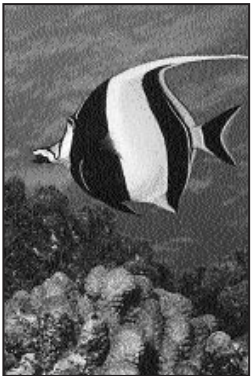
- A Sunset Service will be held by the Pearl Harbor Survivors Association at 5 p.m. at the Arizona Memorial Visitor's Center.

- The Arizona Memorial and Naval Station Pearl Harbor are sponsoring special boat tours around Ford Island and other historic sites and buildings that played a role during the 1941 attack. Tour times are 9:30 a.m., 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 2:30 p.m.

The tours are free, but each boat is limited to 150 people. Advance registration is recommended by 3 p.m. Dec. 6. Call Ranger Chris Chang at 422-2771, ext. 110 and leave your name, phone number, the time you wish to take the tour and the number of the people in your party.

For more information on these events please contact the National Park Service at 422-2771.

See also...



Diving adventures offered to servicemembers and families...B-1

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# USS Crommelin returns



J02 Greg Cleghorne photo

A member of Germaine's Luau gives USS Crommelin (FFG 37) a traditional Hawaiian welcome on Pearl Harbor's Mike Pier. Crommelin returned from a three-month deployment in the Eastern Pacific after taking part in counterdrug operations with the Joint-Interagency Task Force West, supporting our nation's war on the illegal narcotics trade.

## USS Crommelin returns from successful CD-OPS deployment

By Lt.j.g. Tyler Dunaway

USS CROMMELIN

After three fast-paced months of operating in the Eastern Pacific, USS Crommelin (FFG 37) and her crew of 224 Sailors returned home to Pearl Harbor on Nov. 24.

While deployed, Crommelin was assigned to the Alameda, California-based Joint Inter-Agency Task Force West, supporting our nation's war on the illegal narcotics trade.

The deployment took Crommelin to port visits in San Diego and Port Hueneme, Calif.; Acapulco, Puerto Vallarta, and Cabo San Lucas,

Mexico; and Puerto Quetzal, Guatemala.

Crommelin's principal mission while deployed was the detection and monitoring of suspected drug trafficking vessels in the Eastern Pacific. In carrying out that mission, Crommelin deployed with an SH-60B helicopter detachment from Helicopter Antisubmarine Squadron (Light) 37 (HSL-37) based at Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay. Together the ship and helicopter team conducted intelligence gathering, boarded suspect vessels and performed several humanitarian rescue missions on the high seas off Central America.

Crommelin's crew returns home after seventy-seven days at sea on-station in the eastern Pacific. In total, the ship and crew covered more than 10,000 miles at sea.

While the Sailors of Crommelin look forward to a relaxing holiday season in Pearl Harbor, the ship is already gearing up for work-ups to support its next deployment. Crommelin is scheduled to deploy with Destroyer Squadron 31, USS Paul Hamilton (DDG 60), and USS Fletcher (DD 992) from Pearl Harbor, along with the rest of the USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72) Carrier Battle Group.

By J02 Greg Cleghorne

NAVY REGION HAWAII

USS Crommelin (FFG 37) and her crew of 224 Sailors returned to Pearl Harbor last Wednesday completing a three-month deployment to the Eastern Pacific.

Crommelin deployed Aug. 24 to participate in counter-narcotics operations in that area. The Pacific Fleet's naval surface force maintains a constant involvement monitoring international waterways for drug trafficking.

Members of Germaine's Luau - clad and dancing their welcome in full, traditional Hawaiian attire - joined hundreds of family and friends gathered on Mike pier to welcome Crommelin and her crew back to the "best homeport in the Navy."

Most Sailors accumulated sea stories while deployed, but one romantic story unfolded when the ship returned.

While out to sea, Chief Storekeeper (SW) Jerry Russo was planning something of the stuff that paperback novelists write about. He and his friends had labored to keep their plan a surprise from his fiancée Rose Caamic. When he was finally within cellular and visual range, he phoned her and asked her for her hand in marriage. She said yes.

As the ship pulled closer to pierside, a white banner emblazoned with bright red letters and a flower - a single rose - hung over Crommelin's rail. It spelled out his proposal and her acceptance response in blue letters.

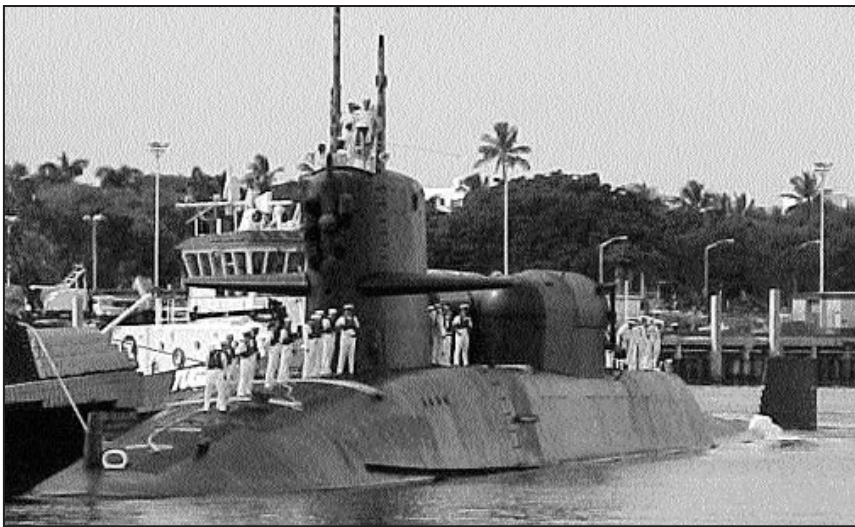
"I was a little nervous about proposing with everyone and TV crews at the pier," said Russo. "What if she said no?"

But she didn't. Rose said she had been dating Russo for about a year and had no idea he was about to propose to her. While they want to get married soon, they haven't set a date yet.

"He's really special and has

▼ See CROMMELIN, A-4

## Kamehameha returns from WESTPAC



J03 McClain Shewman photo

Kamehameha Sailors man the rails as the Benjamin Franklin-class submarine pulls into Pearl Harbor after returning from a six months western Pacific deployment.

By J03 McClain Shewman

SUBPAC PUBLIC AFFAIRS

USS Kamehameha (SSN 642), a Benjamin Franklin-class submarine, recently returned to Hawaii from its initial six-month western Pacific deployment (WESTPAC).

During their deployment, the submarine conducted various exercises, entertained His Majesty the King Abdullah bin Al-Hussein, King of Jordan, and Gen. Peter Schoomaker, Commander in Chief, Special Operations Command.

The Kamehameha is scheduled for inacti-

vation in October 2001. The submarine force in the Pacific will continue to shrink from as many as 40 in the early 1990's to only 25 early in the next decade.

Sonar Technician (Submarine) (SS) 1st Class Kevin Boyar, Kamehameha's sonar division leading petty officer, said it feels good to be back, but most of all it feels good to have been the first submarine to successfully visit Jordan.

"I was impressed with the King's visit. We were standing topside when two helicopters

▼ See KAMEHAMEHA, A-14

## NCTAMS PAC celebrates Operation Aloha 1999

By OS2 Maurice Messina

NCTAMS PAC

THERE are numerous ways to celebrate Thanksgiving. For the men and women of Naval Computer and Telecommunications Area Master Station, Pacific (NCTAMS PAC) and their families, this holiday is best celebrated through giving back to the community.

On Nov. 25, the 10th Annual NCTAMS PAC Operation Aloha was held at the Haleiwa Community Center where a Thanksgiving dinner was prepared and served to the less fortunate and homeless of the North Shore community of Oahu.

The dinner began with opening remarks by Capt. Donald F. Kerrigan, commanding officer, NCTAMS

PAC and Rev. Alan Lee.

"What a great turn out. I would like to welcome everyone who came to dine and thank all of the volunteers and community members for making this Thanksgiving dinner special", said Kerrigan.

Next, a Thanksgiving prayer was given by Lt. Paul Shaughnessy and Rev. Lee.

This year's menu included sliced turkey and gravy, baked ham with pineapple sauce, sweet potatoes, mashed potatoes, corn on the cob, steamed rice, and apple and pumpkin pies.

"This is my first year of involvement with Operation Aloha and seeing it all come together was both exciting and inspiring. The outpouring of support from both the military and civilian communities far exceeded my expectation. I would personally like to thank all the volun-

▼ See NCTAMS, A-14